Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Who gave authority to the Member for Revenue to answer my questions?

Deputy President.—In the absence of any Government Member, the supplementary questions can be answered by any other Government Member.

Orthodox type of marriage.

281. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) whether they are aware that the orthodox type of marriage in this country has failed as an efficient social institution ;

(b) what proposals of reform the Government intend to work out with reference to (a) ?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise in view of answer to (a).

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—(a) Has it succeeded ?

Deputy President.—What does it refer to ?

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Sir, it is with reference to (a). Am I to understand that they cannot answer that ?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—No.

Lady hands—in the Council Office.

282. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) why there are no lady hands in the staff to this Council;

(b) with reference to (a)

(i) whether the ladies have the occasion to consider themselves being insulted for having no place in the staff of the premier representative institution of the State, and

(ii) whether the Government intend to accept the suggestion in (a) with special regard to the current idea of absolute equality of the sexes ;

(c) whether there have been any applications from ladies for the post indicated above and how they were disposed of?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—(a) There is no special reason.

(b) (i) No.

(ii) Government will consider the suggestion.

(c) Yes, there was one application. It was forwarded to the Judges of the Chief Court and the Superintendent of Registration for consideration when vacancies arise in their departments.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Was any lady consulted before answering this question ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—No.

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